

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

November 28 – 29, 2024



This report is the result of media monitoring on infectious and emerging diseases happening around the world and among the ASEAN Member States. In order to improve pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response in the ASEAN Region, we provide this report three times a week starting January 2024.

Global Situation

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** Seven dengue patients died and 837 were admitted to hospitals in Bangladesh in the past 24 hours (BSS, 2024). This year, the total number of cases reached 90,440, with 482 deaths from dengue disease reported. The country recorded 1,705 dengue-related deaths and 3,21,179 cases last year. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Hong Kong's** Centre for Health Protection (CHP) is investigating a local case of dengue fever, a 68-year-old woman from Tai Wai, marking the fifth local case in 2024 (DimsumDaily HongKong, 2024). The woman had no recent travel history and could not recall mosquito bites in the three weeks before her illness. CHP and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) are implementing mosquito control, vector investigations, and resident surveys. A health talk is planned to address public concerns. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **India:** Greater Budh Nagar authorities reported 583 cases of dengue from January to date, indicating a decline in infections (Khan, 2024). The decline can be attributed to public awareness and proactive measures. Urban villages remain hotspots, while high-rise societies in Greater Noida West report fewer cases. Despite the decrease, 3-4 new cases are still detected daily. [\[Full article\]](#)

Malaria

- **Egypt:** The Egyptian Ministry of Health reported 19 imported malaria cases in the Aswan and Red Sea governorates after testing 18,693 blood samples (Al-Ain.com, 2024). The state emphasizes a One Health approach, engaging multiple sectors in food, water, and environmental initiatives to strengthen public health efforts. Egypt remains malaria-free, holding a certificate of malaria elimination. [\[Full article\]](#)

Melioidosis

- **Australia:** Northern Territory Health has reported three melioidosis cases in the Greater Darwin region since October 1, reflecting a rising trend in recent years (Independent Staff, 2024). The rise in cases could be linked to La Nina weather patterns and early heavy rainfall. Melioidosis can cause severe pneumonia and sepsis, with a 10% mortality rate in the Territory. Preventive measures include wearing waterproof footwear, gloves, masks, and promptly treating wounds while avoiding exposure during heavy rain. Early medical attention is critical. [\[Full article\]](#)



Poliomyelitis

- **Pakistan** has reported a new polio case, raising the country's polio cases to 56 this year (The Indian Express, 2024). The case was confirmed in a boy from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, marking the seventh polio case of the year from Dera Ismail Khan. The National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) emphasized the need for prevention, advising multiple doses of polio drops and routine vaccinations for children under five. [[Full article](#)]

Zika

- **Bangladesh:** Dhaka has seen an increase in Zika virus cases, with eight individuals testing positive over the past three months (Dhaka Tribune, 2024). Last year, 5 cases were reported, all of whom have recovered and are no longer at risk. The Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) advises individuals to rest, stay hydrated, and take prescribed medications for fever and pain. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Mpox

- **Malaysia:** A new case of clade II mpox has been reported in Malaysia, bringing the total number of cases for the year to two (FTM Reporters, 2024). The patient, a 34-year-old man with a history of international travel, is in stable condition after receiving symptomatic treatment. The health ministry is monitoring all close contacts for signs of mpox. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** The Gunungkidul Health Office, Yogyakarta Province, is urging the community to be aware of dengue due to the rapid breeding of mosquitoes during the rainy season (Newswire, 2024). To mitigate the spread of the disease, the office is promoting the "one house, one mosquito larvae inspector" movement. Since January, the district has recorded 1,630 dengue cases, though no significant increase has been reported for October and November. The office is also requesting health facilities to respond quickly to dengue symptoms to prevent fatalities from late treatment. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines:** The number of dengue cases in Tagum City has surged in 2024, with 2,277 cases recorded from January to November, an 84% increase from the 1,238 recorded last year (Velasco, 2024). The most affected areas include the villages of Visayan, followed by Apokon, Mankilam, La Filipina, Madaum, San Miguel, and Magdum. The latest fatality was a five-year-old girl from Barangay Magugpo Poblacion. Health authorities urge public to maintain hygiene and practice dengue prevention habits. [[Full article](#)]

Malaria

- **Viet Nam:** A laborer returning from Angola was diagnosed with malaria caused by *Plasmodium vivax* (Hoang, 2024). The Ha Tinh Center for Disease Control responded swiftly to the case by monitoring the situation and conducting expanded investigations. Mosquito control measures were implemented in Van Lac village, and over 100 blood samples were collected from local households, all testing negative for malaria. The patient is stable and continues to be monitored. [[Full article](#)]



Measles

- **Viet Nam** has recorded 4,918 measles cases and five deaths, with the number of positive cases 111 times higher than in 2023 (Chau, 2024). The highest number of cases are reported in Ho Chi Minh City and Dong Nai province. The rise is attributed to the epidemic cycle and low vaccination rates, particularly among children under 9 months old, who have not yet reached the recommended vaccination age. [Full article]

Rabies

- **Viet Nam:** A 53-year-old woman in Vietnam died of rabies six months after being scratched by her pet cat (Mstar, 2024). Despite initial minor bleeding, she did not receive a rabies vaccine. The cat exhibited unusual aggressive behavior after giving birth and had never been vaccinated against rabies before. [Full article]

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